



Published quarterly by the  
Republican Valley Library  
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We reserve the right to  
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Mo Khamouna  
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Vicki Perrie  
Sylvia Person  
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## E-Readers and Libraries: A Good Combination? Use the RVLS E-Reader Kit to Give It a Try!

Patrons and students in all types of libraries are using downloadable audiobooks and electronic books. The growth of Overdrive has made it possible for even small public libraries with limited budgets to offer this service. It is a natural progression for libraries to consider providing electronic devices for their patrons to borrow. There are several factors to think about when determining the feasibility of loaning E-Readers.

First, and foremost, the E-Readers on the market today are designed for individual consumers to buy or borrow a book, download it, and then read or listen it. The hardware and file formats are not designed to be connected to various computers by multiple people. The user must authenticate the device, sometimes by connecting it to a specific computer or, otherwise, by entering a login and password. In order to loan a blank E-Reader for patrons to utilize Overdrive, after each use, it would need to be reset to factory settings. That means each person that borrows that device must reload the Overdrive console and set up an Adobe ID. This arrangement is not user-friendly and is a work-around to make the E-Reader do something it is not intended to do. Other things to consider are cost, the wide variety of devices and file for-

mats that are not compatible, and whether or not your patrons are requesting E-Readers to borrow.

Some school libraries have successfully adopted E-Readers into their collections. Kindles and iPads seem to be the most popular devices. One method of use is to purchase an individual title and add it to six Kindles. That is the maximum allowed by Amazon. Other libraries allow students to request particular titles be loaded on the E-Reader. An example of a successful program is a Kindle club which allows student members to come into the library and use the device for leisure reading. One benefit of using E-Readers is privacy. No one can see the title, except the student with the device. Another plus is that students are reading books that they may not have chosen based on the size of the printed volume.

The Regional Library Systems recently received a Library Improvement Grant to purchase E-Readers for loan to member libraries. This will give librarians a chance to become familiar with the technology without having to invest money from their budgets. The Republican Valley Library System has purchased three devices.

Continued on Page 2



The **Sony Pocket eReader** is small and reads like a paper-back book. You must have sufficient light in the room and use the buttons to select the title and turn pages.



The **Pandigital Novel** is a full-color touch screen device. It has Internet capability through a Wi-Fi connection. The Novel has a night reading feature with a back light. You can surf the web, play games, and buy or borrow books to read.

The **Barnes and Noble NOOK Wi-Fi** uses a combination of technologies. There is a small color touch screen on the bottom of the device. It can connect to the Internet with Wi-Fi to buy or borrow books. The reading screen is like a regular book and you can only read in a lighted area. You turn the pages either with buttons or by swiping across the touch screen on the bottom.



All three are compatible with **Overdrive**. There are a variety of books already downloaded onto the devices.

If you are interested in borrowing the E-Reader Kit, contact the RVLSystem Office. You will receive all three readers, a book titled *No Shelf Required: E-Books in Libraries*, and a folder full of information about the devices. The loan period will be one week. You will be responsible for postage to the next site.

#### References:

Barack, Lauren. "The Kindles Are Coming." *School Library Journal* March 2011: 58-60.

Porter, Michael, and King, David Lee. "E-Books, E-Book Readers, and Next Steps." *Public Libraries* Nov.-Dec. 2010: 20-23.



#### Schedule a Teen Tournament

Need an easy teen program that will be a hit? Borrow the Wii gaming system from RVLS and request the **NEW** Dance Dance Revolution games and dancing pads. Available now!



## RVLS is Going Green



In order to save resources, ValleyTalk, the RVLS newsletter, will be distributed by email. According to a recent survey on the RVLS website, most people would rather get an email instead of a letter. If you would like to receive your newsletter this way, please send Kay an email with "Email Newsletter" in the subject line. If you would prefer to continue receiving a paper newsletter, do nothing and you will stay on our mailing list.



Please  
Help RVLS  
save trees

### Read *The Frugal Librarian: Thriving in Tough Economic Times*



Fewer employees, shorter hours, diminished collection budgets, reduced programs and services all at a time of record library usage. Don't fret and fritter away scarce resources. Be frugal! In this book, library expert Smallwood persuasively demonstrates that the necessity of doing business differently can be positive. Presenting creative and resourceful solutions to universal concerns from dozens of librarians, representing a wide variety of institutions, this collection helps overtaxed library professionals

- \* Find supplementary funding sources, including grants
- \* Save money by sharing resources, using tiered staffing for technical services, and implementing green IT

- \* Tap into grassroots movements to save neighborhood libraries
- \* Preserve and enhance important library functions like programming, outreach, and staff development, despite a tight budget

Partnering, sharing, innovating these are the watchwords for contemporary librarians in tough economic times, and this book offers plenty of ideas that can be implemented immediately.

(Product Information from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).)

**Request this book or other professional material from the RVLS office by telephone or email.**

## BULK LOAN OF LARGE PRINT BOOKS

Is your library currently taking advantage of RVLS's BULK LOAN service?????

If not, you might consider joining!

For a fee of \$50.00, your library will receive bulk loans of 200 large print titles per year. Typically, you will receive 50 new books each quarter and send the previous 50 books back. You are responsible for shipping charges, if any. Depending on your location, your books will come from Hastings Public Library or McCook Public Library.

The \$50.00 payment (due by July 1st, 2011) covers the period from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 and will be made to the Republican Valley Library System.

If you have questions or wish to begin participating, please contact the RVLS office by June 1, 2011.

Republican Valley Library System  
2727 W. 2nd Street, #233  
Hastings, NE 68901

Phone: 402-462-1875 or  
800-569-4961  
rvlsadmin@inebraska.com

## RVLS Has Scholarship Money Available

Up to \$100.00 per event for registration, mileage, meal, etc.

Only one scholarship per person per fiscal year

All member libraries eligible

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Library \_\_\_\_\_

Event \_\_\_\_\_

Date of event \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship requested for \_\_\_\_\_ (meal, room, etc.)

Amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

Other information: \_\_\_\_\_



Send your request to: Republican Valley Library System  
2727 W. 2nd Street # 233  
Hastings, NE 68901

# *Republican Valley Library System*

## *2011 Annual Meeting*

*June 3, 2011*

*Red Cloud Community Center*

*142 W. 3rd Avenue*

*Red Cloud, NE*



Red Cloud Opera House

9:30 RVLS Board Meeting

11:00 RVLS Annual Meeting

12:00 Lunch

12:45—NE Library Commission Report by Rod Wagner

1:00 pm—2:30 pm—Tours of Red Cloud Opera House and

Willa Cather Childhood Home.

### **Registration Due May 18, 2011**



Willa Cather's  
Childhood Home

Registration Form

Republican Valley library System

2011 Annual Meeting—June 3, 2011

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Library: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this registration form and \$20 per person:

Republican Valley Library System

2727 West 2nd St. Suite #233

Hastings, NE 68901

**Republican Valley Library System Board Meeting**  
**March 4, 2011 10:00**  
**Via Telephone Conference Call**

**PRESENT:** Tony Anderson, Vicki Casper, Beth Falla, Mo Khamouna, Mary Nelson, Vicki Perrie, Sylvia Person, Sky Seery, Nancy Sherwood, Dana Wade, Claudette Wielechowski. **ABSENT:** Jane Hilton. **ALSO PRESENT:** Denise Harders (System Director), Steve Batty (NLC Commissioner), and Richard Miller (NLC Representative).

**AGENDA**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:** President Vicki Casper called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (Jan. 7, 2011): Minutes were approved as written.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Reports were in our packet and filed for audit.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** A thank you was read from Nancy Sherwood for her RVLS Scholarship.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Denise reported there were 310 children who participated in the "Cowgirl Peg" presentation at McCook elementary schools and McCook Public Library. She also enjoyed the "Getting Acquainted" coffees that were held for her at the RVLS office and Culbertson Public Library. Denise traveled quite a bit this week and reminded the board if they need to get in touch with her, to call her cell phone. (A detailed copy of the administrator's report is in each board member's packet.) Richard Miller complimented Denise on her participation at the League of Nebraska Municipalities mid-winter meeting, and her help staffing their booth.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Annual Meeting Location:** Superior and McCook declined to have the meeting at either of those locations. Mary Nelson made a motion to have the meeting in Red Cloud, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tony Anderson. Motion carried. No decision was made on the menu selection. Nancy will contact the caterer about some other options and Denise will send out an e-mail to vote on the menu.

**Summer Reading Workshop:** This will be held March 25<sup>th</sup> in Elwood. Denise will send out a reminder e-mail for the registration deadline of March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Budget Concerns:** There is a possibility that the RVLS budget may be cut next year. Denise gave us some suggestions as to where we could make some budget reductions. Three areas were discussed: 1) The RVLS board could hold three conference call meetings and two face-to-face meetings annually; 2) Take a survey of RVLS libraries to see who would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail and who prefers a paper copy; 3) Reduce the number of audio books, book kits, etc. that are ordered annually. No formal action was taken on any of the above, these are only suggestions until we see the final budget proposal. (A detailed copy of budget concerns was in each board member's packet.)

**Office Copier:** After a lengthy discussion, it was decided the current copier needs to be replaced. Mary Nelson made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mo Khamouna, asking Denise to: 1) contact Capital Business Systems (formerly Modern Methods and no longer located in Hastings) regarding the slow response for repair work on the current copier; 2) contact Eakes and see if they will come down in their price; 3) get price quotes from other office supply businesses. Motion carried. (Price quotes from CBS and Eakes were in each board member's packet.)

**Storytelling Kits:** Many of these kits are not being used and take up valuable space in the RVLS office. Several suggestions were discussed. Sylvia Person made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mary Nelson, to have Denise send out an e-mail with a list of all the kits. RVLS libraries will respond as whether they would use a kit and send back a list their top 3 choices. Office staff would "draw" for kits that are most popular. Motion carried. **NOTE:** There are more libraries than there are kits, not every library would receive a kit. All kits are elementary level.

**E-Reader Grant:** Denise reported RVLS just received this \$320.00 grant, plus \$100.00 in matching funds, to purchase two e-readers. Denise has seen several different brands and is leaning toward the Nook color @ \$250.00. She will consult Michael Sauers at NLC for other suggestions.

**NLC Commissioner Report:** Steve reported the McCook Library received a Library Improvement Grant of \$2200.00 for the purchase of a portable green room. He noted that in the most recent RVLS newsletter there was a grant listing for a YA program, but he was unable to reach anyone by phone. It may not be valid at this time. Steve also suggested that if the RVLS newsletter is sent via e-mail, it would be best done in Adobe Reader form. Vicki C. thanked Steve for his input at our meetings.

**NLC Representative Report:** Richard Miller e-mailed a detailed a copy of the NLC Report to Systems to all board members. We're glad Richard could join our conference call and hope he is feeling better!

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:** Annual meeting, June 3, 2011 in Red Cloud.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Nancy Sherwood, Recording Secretary



# **RVLS Board Meetings 2011-2012**



**Friday, September 9, 2011  
Hastings Memorial Library– Grant**

**Friday, November 4, 2011  
Central Community College—Hastings**

**Friday, January 6, 2012  
Tele-Conference**

**Friday, March 2, 2012  
Tele-Conference**

**Friday, June 1, 2012—Annual Meeting  
Location to be announced**

# Summer Reading Workshop





# Nebraska Library Leadership Institute

July 10-14, 2011

St. Benedict Center

Schuyler, NE

## Purpose:

The purpose of the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute 2011 is to provide future Nebraska library leaders a structured professional opportunity to:

Examine their own leadership styles in depth.

Gain knowledge and skills needed for effective leadership in a rapidly changing environment.

Identify their professional and personal goals.

Develop a network of professional peers with whom they will continue to work for years to come.

Interact with a select group of outstanding library leaders who will serve as mentors.

## Participants:

The 30 selected participants will have demonstrated:

Outstanding leadership potential.

Excellent communication skills.

Successful library employment experience.

Initiative, commitment and reasonable risk-taking.

## Requirements:

All applicants must complete an application form which can be found online at the RVLS website or by contacting your system office. Applications must be postmarked no later than May 20, 2011. The 30 Institute participants will be notified by May 31, 2011. The tuition of \$225 is due by June 30, 2011.

**RVLS has Scholarship Money Available—\$100 per event.**

**(One scholarship per person per fiscal year)**

### 2011 Mentors

Nancy Busch

Francine Canfield

Sherry Crow

Brenda Ealey

Steve Fosselman

Wally Seiler

Kathy Tooker

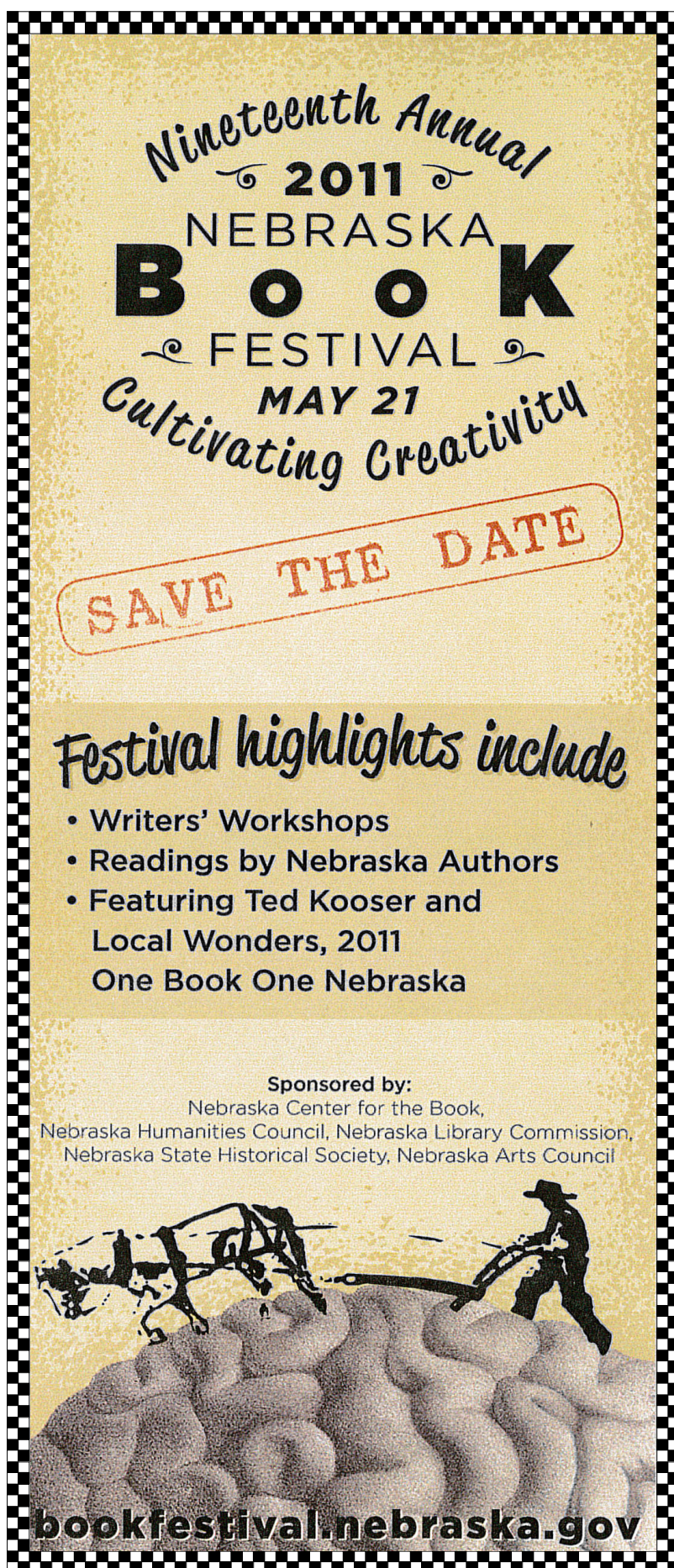
Rod Wagner



Continuing Education Credits available: 32 Hours

Funded by Nebraska Library Commission, Nebraska Library Association & Nebraska Regional Library Systems.  
Institute Contingent on Funding.





*Nineteenth Annual*  
**2011**  
 NEBRASKA  
**BOOK**  
*FESTIVAL*  
**MAY 21**  
*Cultivating Creativity*

**SAVE THE DATE**

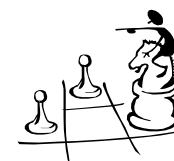
*Festival highlights include*

- Writers' Workshops
- Readings by Nebraska Authors
- Featuring Ted Kooser and Local Wonders, 2011 One Book One Nebraska

Sponsored by:  
 Nebraska Center for the Book,  
 Nebraska Humanities Council, Nebraska Library Commission,  
 Nebraska State Historical Society, Nebraska Arts Council

**bookfestival.nebraska.gov**

## It's Your Move



### Ellison on the Move

Here's the schedule for the Ellison, if you want on the schedule please contact us, or if it is near you, perhaps you could work out something with your neighbor.

**May 1, 2011—**

Hastings Memorial Library Grant,  
 NE

**June 1, 2011—**

Fairfield Public Library,  
 Fairfield, NE

**July 1, 2011—**

Mid-Plains Community College,  
 North Platte, NE

The Ellison has not been booked for  
 September 1st or thereafter.

**If you would like to schedule the  
 Ellison for your facility, please**

**e-mail us at:**

[rvlsasst@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsasst@inebraska.com) or

[rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com)



## On the Bookshelf

The following audiobooks have recently been added to the RVLS Collection:

- ***Cup of Friendship*** by Rodrigues, Deborah
- ***Death of a Chimney Sweep*** by Beaton, M.C.
- ***Gideon's Sword*** by Preston & Child
- ***The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*** by Larsson, Stieg
- ***A Heartbeat Away*** by Palmer, Michael
- ***I Beat the Odds*** by Oher, Michael with Don Yaeger
- ***I Think I Love You*** by Pearson, Allison
- ***Journal of the Gun Years*** by Matheson, Richard
- ***The Lonesome Gods*** by L'Amour, Louis
- ***My Father at 100*** by Reagan, Ron
- ***Texas! Sage*** by Sandra Brown
- ***Though Not Dead*** by Stabenow, Dana
- ***West of Here*** by Evison, Jonathan

### New to the Professional Collection

- **Library Futures— Staying Ahead of the Curve—Free Content for Library Collections DVD**

A complete listing of our available materials is on our web page [libraries.ne.gov/rvls](http://libraries.ne.gov/rvls) under Services

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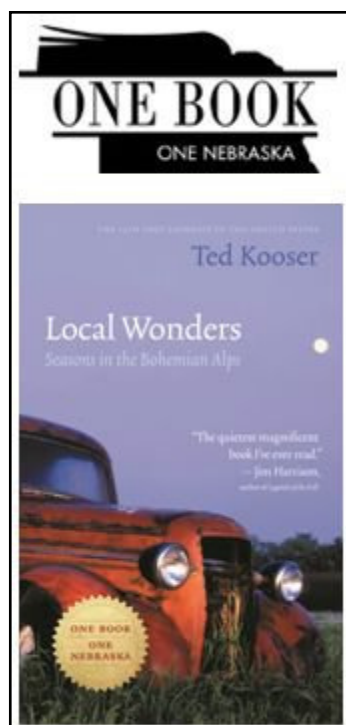
## WEBSITE REVIEW

Dr. Becky Pasco Recommends **SlimeKids** ([www.slimekids.com](http://www.slimekids.com))

**S**chool **l**ibrary **m**edia **K**ids was designed by Andy Fine, a parent, reading specialist, and school library media specialist. The website helps children explore their interest in books and reading with exceptional resources such as book trailers, author and book review websites, as well as educational tools including games, reference works, and search engines...and its FUN!



## Book Kit Update



Ted Kooser's *Local Wonders: Seasons in the Bohemian Alps* has been selected as this year's One Book One Nebraska. Kooser describes southeastern Nebraska as only he can, with humor and compassion that describes ordinary events in an extraordinary way. You will recognize yourself somewhere in the pages of this book. This is a must-read for all Nebraskans!

Ted Kooser was the U.S. Poet Laureate from 2004-2006 and is a recipient of the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. He is currently a University of Nebraska Presidential Professor.

Through the generosity of the Nebraska Center for the Book, the Nebraska Humanities Council, the Nebraska Library Association, the Nebraska Library Commission and the University of Nebraska Press, we have a set of 20 books that is available to loan out to libraries. Contact the RVLS office to reserve the set for your book club today!



## ONE BOOK FOR NEBRASKA KIDS

The 2011-2012 One Book for Nebraska Kids is *The Last Newspaper Boy in America* by Sue Corbett. This exciting, suspenseful story follows Wil as he fights to save his newspaper delivery route after the local paper calls an end to home delivery. Using physics and the help of his brother and a neighbor girl, Wil starts to unravel a mystery bigger than he ever expected.

Thanks to the Nebraska Library Commission and the Nebraska Humanities Council, the Republican Valley Library System has a set of 10 of these books to loan out to your school or public library. Interested? Contact the RVLS office to reserve the set today!





# RVLS HAPPENINGS

**Hastings College Perkins Library** celebrated **National Library Week** by holding a contest on its facebook page, I Recline on Couches, Living on Coffee & JSTOR @ Perkins Library. Contestants were asked, "What's YOUR Story @ Perkins Library," using 140 (or less) characters. Freshman Jessica Bliven took first place with this entry: "I found my purpose among the time-honored books. Every page, beckoned me to follow and every word cut through worldly restraints." All of the entries are posted on the library's facebook page. Submitted by Susan Franklin

**Karen Baisinger** volunteers at the **Hastings Regional Center, Hastings Juvenile Chemical Dependency Program Library** three hours a week.



Although the plan is to have front line staff assist her, most weeks Karen does it all! Karen maintains the library which involves a variety of duties from cataloging and sorting to ordering new books that are of interest to young men. Karen also has interactions with and assists the youth who have access to the library during the school hours; 8:15am to 3:25pm. Keeping the library organized and in shape is no easy task with 2500 volumes of books, magazines and newspapers that are available to not only the young men in the program, but staff as well.

Karen has numerous years of experience as a librarian including several years as an elementary school librarian, but, starting in Ohio, mostly as a head high school librarian. She also worked for 23 years in Kansas at Hays and Ottawa High Schools. Her skills were also useful in small town schools in Nebraska including Lawrence, Wauneta and Imperial's Chase County High School.

Karen met her husband Dave in Kenesaw, Nebraska at the age of 15 and they later married in 1966. They moved back to Kenesaw in 2006 to retire. They have two daughters, Kendra of Philadelphia and Jill of Delaware, both attorneys and are blessed with two grandchildren. During her spare time Karen enjoys quilting, sewing, jigsaw puzzles, reading and traveling.

The **Hastings Regional Center** greatly appreciates Karen's expertise and volunteer service to keep the library operational and



**If you are considering a career in librarianship, you can take advantage of grant money for college, training, or an internship from the Nebraska Library Commission.**

**The Nebraska Library Commission was awarded a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the amount of \$721,033.** This grant will be used by NLC and Central Community

College to foster the recruitment, education, and 21st century skills development of 165 pre-professional and professional students through scholarships, internships, and stipends. The Cultivating Rural Librarians' Technology Skills program adds value to students' formal educational experiences through social and face-to-face networking opportunities and through technology skills training. The grant will also be used to recruit promising high school and college students and diverse library personnel to ensure that Nebraskans receive library services provided by knowledgeable librarians who represent a range of backgrounds and talents.

## Republican Valley Library System Board

Do you know someone who would be interested in serving on your Library System Board? The Republican Valley Library System is accepting nominations for one 3-year board term beginning July 1, 2011.

### What is the Role of the System Board?

The System Board is the governing body of the Republican Valley Library System; its function is similar to that of a public library board of trustees or any non-profit corporation. Board member tasks include:

- Be an advocate for the System and System services
- Budget preparation
- Evaluation of System services and programs
- Design of specification for provision of System

### How Often Does the System Board Meet?

The System Board meets five times per year, at designated places around the system or by telephone conference call. Meetings usually last about two

### Are Members of the Board Reimbursed for Expenses?

Members are not permitted to receive a salary, wage or fee for their services. However, they are reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in carrying out their duties. The cost of travel to and from Board and committee meetings is reimbursed at the current Federal allowable rate; examples of other reimbursed expenses are telephone charges and

If you have any questions concerning participation on the Republican Valley Library System Board, contact:

Vicki Casper  
RVLS Board President  
308-938-3008  
[hpl@gtmc.net](mailto:hpl@gtmc.net)

Denise Harders  
System Administrator  
402-462-1975  
[rvlsadmin@inebraska.com](mailto:rvlsadmin@inebraska.com)

Nominees for the position may be library employees or library customers. Nominees representing any of the System counties are welcome. Deadline for nominations is May 15, 2011.

### Republican Valley Library System Board Nomination Form

Nominee information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Library Connection \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Submit to:

RVLS Office

2727 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. #233

Hastings, NE 68901

# Mark Your Calendar



## May

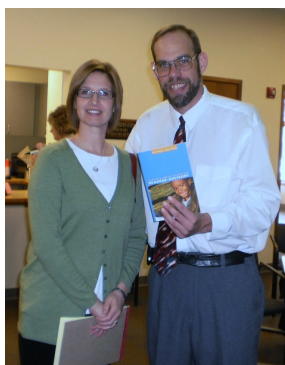
- May 5            Branding Your Library—Central City  
May 6            Branding Your Library—North Platte  
May 6            Registration opens for Basic Skills Module-Organization of Materials  
May 15           Deadline for Nominations for the RVLS Board (See page 14)  
May 19           Spring Colloquium—Lincoln  
May 20           Deadline for application to the Nebraska Library Leadership Institute (See page 9)  
May 21           Nebraska Book Festival—Lincoln ( See page 10)

## June

- June 1            Deadline for Bulk Loan Registration (See page 4)  
June 3            RVLS Annual Meeting—Red Cloud (See page 5)  
June 8 R           Registration opens for Basic Skills Module—Library Governance  
June 23-28       ALA Convention—New Orleans  
June 30           Registration opens for Basic Skills Module—Leadership

## July

- July 10-14       Nebraska Library Leadership Institute—Schuyler (See page 9)



### Connecting Boys and Books

**Michael Sullivan** was in Nebraska for two weeks in April. Many of you saw him and I'm sure others have heard *about* his visit. Michael is a teacher, librarian, chess instructor, author, storyteller, and expert on boys and reading. He offered insight into boys and why they do or don't read, as well as suggesting ways to think differently about the library services we offer. His website has hundreds of recommendations for books that boys of all ages will like to read. Visit: <http://www.talestoldtall.com/B4B.html>.

Republican Valley Library System  
2727 West 2nd Street St. # 233  
Hastings, NE 68901-4684

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Perkins  
Phelps  
Red Willow  
Webster

**"Libraries will get you  
through times of no money  
better than money will get  
you through times of no  
libraries."**

Anne Herbert, *The Next  
Whole Earth Catalog*